CVC, etc. Government receives suggestions relating to Public Sector Enterprises from various organisation/ individuals from time to time and these are kept in view while formulating policy decisions.

Survey to set up SSIs in Haryana and Punjab

2186. SHRI LACHHMAN SINGH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any survey in the Haryana and Punjab to set up of small scale industries for creation and generation of employment opportunities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The primary responsibility for development of Small Scale Industry rests with the State Governments.

(d) The following steps have been taken by the Government to create and generate employment:—

(i) To provide self-employment opportunities to educated unemployed youth in the country, Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana has been launched in the year 1993-94. The scheme is designed to provide employment to more than a million persons by setting up of 7 lakh micro enterprises by the end of 8th Five Year Plan.

(ii) Integrated Infrastructure Development Scheme has been launched in March 1994 to augment infrastructural facilities in rural and backward areas with special emphasis on linkages between agriculture and industry. The scheme envisages setting up of 50 Intergrated Infrastructure Development Centre in the country during 8th Five Year Plan.

(iii) To improve the skills of entrepreneurs, Entrepreneurship Development Programmes are being conducted through the network of Small Industries Service Institutes/Branch Institutes in the country.

(iv) Implementation of 7-Point Action Plan for improving the flow of credit to Small Scale Sector.

(v) Equity type support to the entrepreneurs is being extended through the National Equity Fund Scheme of Small Industries Development Bank of India. The scope of the scheme has been expanded in 1995-96 to cover large sections of Small Scale Industries.

(vi) Technical support through guidance, workshop, testing, Tool Room and Product-com-Process development facilities is being provided through the network of Institutions and associated agencies created for them.

National Commission for Safai Karamcharis

2187. SHRI RAM NATH KOVIND: DR. RANBIR SINGH:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Members of the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis have urged Government for rehabilitation of scavengers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to take some action on these requests; and

(d) if so, details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA): (a) to (d) Yes Sir, the Members of the Commission in their Ist report of the National Commission for

Safai Karamcharies 1994-95 have recommended the following:—

(1) to clarify the definition of Scavengers to all State Govts/U.T. Administration for better coverage of the Rehabilitation programme for the Scavengers.

(2) to adopt a cluster approach in the training and rehabilitation programme.

(3) More Public and Private bodies be involved for imparting training under the National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers and their dependents. Wherever requisite training facilities are available with Government Organisations such facilities be fully utilised.

(4) sanctioning of project costs should be properly implemented i.e. upto Rs. 50,000/-.

(5) to take measures to avoid delay on part of Central Government in release of funds to the State Governments.

(6) to streamline disbursement of loans by Banks.

(7) to form group projects or registered coopeative society of Safai Karamcharies which could be rendered assistance.

(8) betterment of service conditions for Safai Karamcharies by State Govts./U.T. Administration.

(9) speeding up of conversion of dry latrines into low cost water borne flush latrines by Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment.

(10) better education opportunities for the students belonging to Safai Karamcharies.

Educated Unemployed Youth in Urban Areas

2188. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of educated unemployed youths in urban areas is increasing in the country during the last three years;

(b) whether in view of the economic liberalisation Government propose to take up the matter with private sector to create further employment opportunities; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) The number of educated (Matric & above) Job-seekers, all of whom are not necessarily unemployed, who were on the live register of employment exchanges in the country has shown a marginal increase during the period 1991—1993 (latest available).

(b) and (c) Employment is a thrust area of the Eighth Five Year Plan. The Plan envisages a strategy for accelerated growth of productive employment opportunities in the country, based on faster growth of employment intensive sectors, sub-sectors and activities which would generate additional employment opportunities both in public and private sectors of the economy.

Food stock with FCI

2189. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether food stock with the FCI has fallen and what are the details of the stock for the last 3 years;

(b) whether the off-take of the wheat and rice is reduced;

(c) if so, the reason, therefor; and

(d) the details of the supply of rice, wheat and sugar to Kerala for the distribution through PDS for the last 3 years?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) The stocks of foodgrains in the Central Pool continues to be comfortable and above the minimum level prescribed as per the buffer norms. The Stock position of foodgrains (Wheat and Rice) as on Ist July during the last 3 years against the